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Amendment to the Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method of verifying an incremental change to an integrated circuit design comprising steps of:

(a) receiving as input an integrated circuit design database;

(b) receiving as input an engineering change order;

(c) identifying and marking polygons in a generic data stream file objects in the integrated circuit design database to indicate a current state of the integrated circuit design database;

(d) applying the engineering change order to the integrated circuit design database;

(e) analyzing the integrated circuit design database to generate a list of incremental changes to the integrated circuit design database resulting from the engineering change order;

(f) identifying and marking polygons in the generic data stream file objects in the integrated circuit design database included in the list of incremental changes to generate a marked integrated circuit design database that distinguishes polygons in the generic data stream file distinguish objects in the integrated circuit design database that were changed from the current state; and

(g) generating as output streaming out the marked integrated circuit design database.

2 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein step (g) comprises translating the marked integrated circuit design database to a file in generic data stream format.

3 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2 further comprising a step of applying a special rule deck to validate the marked integrated circuit design database wherein the special rule deck includes only design checks and rules applicable to the polygons in the generic data stream file objects that were changed from the current state.

4 (currently amended): The method of Claim 3 further comprising a step of identifying a design rule violation in the polygons in the generic data stream file objects that were changed from the current state.

5 (currently amended): The method of Claim 4 further comprising a step of modifying the marked integrated circuit design database to correct the design rule violation.

6 (currently amended): A computer program product for verifying an incremental change to an integrated circuit design that includes:

a medium for embodying a computer program for input to a computer; and

a computer program embodied in the medium for causing the computer to perform steps of:

(a) receiving as input an integrated circuit design database;

(b) receiving as input an engineering change order;

(c) identifying and marking polygons in a generic data stream file objects in the integrated circuit design database to indicate a current state of the integrated circuit design database;

(d) applying the engineering change order to the

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integrated circuit design database;

(e) analyzing the integrated circuit design database to generate a list of incremental changes to the integrated circuit design database resulting from the engineering change order;

(f) identifying and marking polygons in the generic data stream file objects in the integrated circuit design database included in the list of incremental changes to generate a marked integrated circuit design database that distinguishes polygons in the generic data stream file distinguish objects in the integrated circuit design database that were changed from the current state; and

(g) generating as output streaming out the marked integrated circuit design database.

7 (currently amended): The computer program product of Claim 6 wherein step (g) comprises translating the marked integrated circuit design database to a file in generic data stream format.

8 (currently amended): The computer program product of Claim 7 further comprising a step of applying a special rule deck to validate the marked integrated circuit design database wherein the special rule deck includes only design checks and rules applicable to the polygons in the generic data stream file objects that were changed from the current state.

9 (currently amended): The computer program product of Claim 8 further comprising a step of identifying a design rule violation in the polygons in the generic data stream file objects that were changed from the current state.

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10 (currently amended): The computer program product of Claim 9 further comprising a step of modifying the marked integrated circuit design database to correct the design rule violation.